

February 10, 2000

Paying Off Trial Lawyers vs. Covering Families

**Dingell-Norwood Would Cancel
Coverage for 1.2 Million Americans
— Cost Estimates Nationwide and for Selected States —**

A House-Senate conference committee will meet in the coming weeks to hammer out the differences between the Senate-passed "Patients' Bill of Rights — Plus" (S. 1344) and the House-passed "Dingell-Norwood" bill (H.R. 2990). The conferees have a clear choice. They can either protect patients and expand coverage, or cancel coverage for over a million Americans by turning the bill into a lawyers' bonanza.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates Dingell-Norwood would increase private health insurance premiums an average of **4.1 percent above inflation**. Data from the Barents Group, an economic consulting firm, reveal such an increase would impose hundreds of dollars in hidden taxes on families, eliminate jobs, and cancel the health coverage of nearly 1.3 million.

WHAT WOULD DINGELL-NORWOOD MEAN FOR YOUR STATE?

| | Lost wages per household | Jobs lost | Additional uninsured |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Nationwide | \$139 | 130,421 | 1,291,630 |
| — Selected States — | | | |
| Arizona | \$112 | n/a | 22,983 |
| California | \$156 | 15,047 | 182,771 |
| Colorado | \$136 | 2,009 | 21,766 |
| Delaware | \$159 | n/a | 3,329 |
| Florida | \$120 | 10,004 | 71,682 |
| Georgia | \$142 | 4,305 | 33,373 |
| Illinois | \$139 | 5,371 | 59,919 |
| Iowa | \$102 | n/a | 11,790 |

| | Lost wages per household | Jobs lost | Additional uninsured |
|----------------|--------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Kentucky | \$128 | n/a | 20,228 |
| Maryland | \$153 | n/a | 30,270 |
| Massachusetts | \$175 | n/a | 29,379 |
| Michigan | \$134 | n/a | 39,556 |
| Minnesota | \$122 | n/a | 24,408 |
| Missouri | \$133 | 3,280 | 30,682 |
| Nevada | \$102 | n/a | 10,416 |
| New Hampshire | \$129 | n/a | 4,192 |
| New Jersey | \$166 | 3,280 | 40,897 |
| New Mexico | \$111 | n/a | 6,881 |
| New York | \$181 | 7,380 | 79,373 |
| North Carolina | \$117 | 3,690 | 28,836 |
| Ohio | \$143 | 6,355 | 55,672 |
| Oklahoma | \$101 | 1,558 | 15,420 |
| Oregon | \$107 | n/a | 19,213 |
| Pennsylvania | \$157 | 5,043 | 49,527 |
| Rhode Island | \$130 | n/a | 5,317 |
| South Carolina | \$140 | n/a | 16,526 |
| Tennessee | \$72 | n/a | 14,029 |
| Texas | \$134 | 9,061 | 83,151 |
| Vermont | \$91 | n/a | 1,300 |
| Virginia | \$131 | n/a | 29,615 |
| Washington | \$120 | 3,403 | 33,948 |
| Wisconsin | \$129 | n/a | 28,629 |

Source: Barents Group, CBO

Research from the Lewin Group, another economic consulting firm, confirms that Dingell-Norwood would cancel coverage for 1.2 million Americans. The Lewin Group estimates that for every one-percent increase in the cost of private health care premiums due to government mandates, 300,000 Americans lose their private health coverage.

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